(b) whether the same has been achieved ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the growth rate target of Air India for the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(e) what steps are being taken to increase the tourist traffic of Air India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) During the mid term appraisal of the Sixth Five Year Plan in May, 1982 Air India projected an average annual growth of traffic at 9·8%, but this level could not be achieved mainly due to increase in fuel prices.

(d) Air India had initially projected an average traffic growth of 8% during Seventh Five Year Plan period. Modified projections of traffic vary between 4% to 6%.

(e) In order to increase the tourist traffic to India, Air India, has *inter-alia* taken the following steps :-

(i) introduction of special excursion fares both for individual and group traffic,

(ii) pursuading other airlines and various hotels to file lower "off peak" fares and tariffs,

(iii) organising familiarisation tours for travel agents and tour operators,

(iv) organising annual tours for travel writers, journalists and other media personnel to various tourist centres in India in collaboration with Government of India Tourist offices,

(v) sponsoring T.V. Teams and Film Companies from various countries to film selcted tourist centes with a view to projecting various aspects such as hotel facilities tourist infrastructure etc.,

(vi) participating in organising Tourism Seminars and Food Festivals abroad in collaboration with leading hotels,

(vii) organising Tourism Seminars in India and bringing Tour Operators to destinations such as Goa, Kashmir, Ladakh and South India with a view to generating traffic to these areas,

(viii) promoting low cost stop over tours in collaboration with ITDC (India Tourism Development Corporation) and HCI (Hotel Corporation of India Ltd.) to attract tourists who would otherwise overfly India, and

(ix) organising special events such as the Himalayan mountaineering and car rally, hang gliding and river running.

Communication System between Drivers and Guards

1678. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways propose to introduce Simplex (one-way) Wireless Communication System between the drivers and guards of long distance trains; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.